

Worcester May 5 1887

Friend May

Enclosed is the invitation signed by the officers and such members of the Society of Antiquity as I could see, also by some others who are not Members and the list could have been largely increased with time, as it is I have been able to give but little time to it, but took the names of the Members at the meeting of Tuesday ev. and of the others as I met them casually, not going for any except Mr. Hoar Mr. Rice Aaron Shayer and Mayor Winstow - Only two or three declined to sign, on the



granted that they knew nothing  
about the matter, and had  
no interest in it. And in-  
deed I should not have  
asked them, only as I  
met them in company  
with others who were sign-  
ing, and as a matter of  
courtesy they were asked.

My invitations were to those  
whom I knew to be interested.  
The whole will appear in  
the morning papers here,  
and in the copies printed  
there I have arranged  
the names as I thought  
they ought to stand in-  
stead of tumbled together  
as they were signed.

It will give a good strong  
advertisement of the meeting,  
which I expect will be a success.



If you care to make a reply  
addressed to the Officer, &c.,  
and will send it to me  
I will have that also in the  
papers

But in replying I trust you  
will say nothing about de-  
clining, but you can accept  
"with the hope that you may  
be able to perform the reading"  
or in some other phrase make conditions  
which will appear to accept  
and still leave you opportunity  
to put in a substitute if  
necessary, which I hope  
will not be the case.

I do not wish to ask too  
much of you, or have you  
take any risks that will  
overdo your strength, but  
I shall expect at least that  
you will be able to be present  
and make preliminary re-



marks giving you view  
of the whole matter in  
brief form.

I will send you a Spy in  
the morning, and also  
one to Johnson, to whom  
I shall write this evening.

Truly

Joseph A. M. S. C.